reviewed the scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education. The review groups have made certain observations on the implementation of the Scheme. These included low priority being accorded to Vocational Education by States as compared to other State run programmes, lack of awareness of the scheme among parents and students, absence of appropriate identification of courses etc. Based on the recommendations of these reviews and to make the scheme more attractive and meaningful the existing scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education is being revised. Under the proposed revised scheme the industry and user organizations will be involved at all stages of implementation of the scheme from identification of courses, preparation and design of curriculum to actual on-site training. The courses shall be competency based, modular in nature and demand driven based on the need based surveys to make them more employment oriented. Opportunity for acquisition of multiple skills shall be available to students to improve their employability.

Fee structure in private schools and colleges

608. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what are Government's guidelines for fixing the fee structure in private schools and colleges in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that schools and colleges are charging exhorbitant fee and donations and swindling the common people; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps, so far, taken or proposed to be taken to regulate the fee structure in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The control over the functioning of the Private Schools is largely the responsibility of the concerned State/UT Government where the School is located. There is a provision in the Bye-Laws of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE) that the fees charged by the schools should be commensurate with the facilities provided. CBSE has issued instructions for ensuring compliance of this provision.

The private colleges affiliated to the universities follow the guidelines issued by the universities with which they are affiliated. However, recently the Supreme Court, in its judgement in T.M.A. Pai foundation & Others *Versus* State of Karnataka & Others Case has, *inter-alia,* pronounced that, in professional unaided institutions, a rational fee structure should be adopted by the Management, which would not be entitled to charge a capitation fee. Appropriate machinery can be devised by the State *or* university to ensure that no capitation fee is charged and that there is no profiteering, through institutions may be permitted to accumulate a reasonable surplus for furtherance of education.This matter is challenged & subjudice at present.

Vacancies in Indian Institutes of Technology

609. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 150 vacancies exist in seven prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology at present, affecting the teaching there adversely;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for not filling vacancies in these institutes; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to fill vacant posts at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) Selection of Faculty in NTs is a continuing process. Faculty positions in IITs keep getting vacant due to retirement or NT faculty moving out to other academic and research institutions in leadership positions etc. But these are also getting filled up on a regular basis. Selection of faculty in IITs is a very rigorous process to maintain high standards.